

Subject: Councilmember Cedillo's E-Newsletter 8.29.14

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Date: 08/29/2014 03:39 PM

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GREETING FROM COUNCILMEMBER GIL CEDILLO

Friends,

First and foremost, I want wish you a happy Labor Day weekend. Let us remember the hard working men and women that have made this great nation of ours.

This Labor Day please join Mayor Garcetti, myself and several of my colleagues as we make an important announcement to address poverty in Los Angeles at Martin Luther King Jr. Park, 3900 S. Western Ave. from 1:00 pm to 2:30 pm. For details please click here: [LABOR DAY RALLY](#).

Next week the city council will be in recess. When we return, we are going to begin to kick off Hispanic Heritage Month activities starting East Los Angeles parade on Sunday September 7 and then El Grito de Dolores, Mexican Independence Day celebration on Monday, September 15.


Gilbert A. Cedillo
Councilmember, First District

LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

Affordable Housing Update from Housing Department

As the chairman of the Los Angeles City Council Housing Committee, I requested an update from the Los Angeles Housing and Community Investment Department (HCIDLA) relative to the tracking and monitoring, owner and tenant outreach, funding assistance prioritization, and preservation efforts of the city's at-risk assisted affordable housing.



My request comes in a time when the City of Los Angeles is potentially at risk of losing up to 15,000 affordable housing units in the next five years. Our objective is to make sure that our affordable housing units are not lost, and identify avenues to increasing the affordable housing supply through the funding mechanisms at the Federal, State and local levels. 

Neighborhood Improvement Fund (NIF) Call for Projects

On Wednesday, the Housing Committee released a report to authorize the Los Angeles Housing and Community Investment Department (HCIDLA) to release the Neighborhood Improvement Fund (NIF) Call for Projects. The NIF is a \$2.6 million program designed to fund small neighborhood improvement projects throughout the City of Los Angeles. Our staff is at work trying to identify such improvements in the First District, please contact our offices if you know of one that needs to be funded or would like more information.

Guatemalan Week Celebration

The Guatemalan Community in Los Angeles has been celebrating la “Semana del Guatemalteco” since 2002. This is an event to celebrate the rich culture and civic involvement of the Guatemalan Community. We were able to honor the Guatemalan community at Council.

(Photo Credit: Louis Reyes)

Adjourn in Memory

Today, the city council adjourned in the memory of First District resident, Mr. Alfred Mendoza, Jr., who passed away surrounded by loved ones on August 21, 2014, after losing a valiant battle with lung cancer. He was 78.


Mr. Mendoza was born on August 10, 1936, in Los Angeles, California, grew up in L.A.’s Historic Filipino Town, graduated from Belmont High School and UCLA, and took his inspiration from his father and many of the first generation Pilipino Americans known as the “Manongs.”

FIELD UPDATE

Highland Park Grand Opening of Our District Office

Thank you so much for coming out to our District Office Grand Opening in Highland Park. We had a terrific turnout, heard some great music, and showcased a beautifully restored historic building. We look forward to serving the community needs at our district office.

Over 2,000 Community Members Attended the Latin Jazz & Music Festival

Team Cedillo is pleased to share  that they 1st Annual Latin Jazz & Music Festival this past weekend at Sycamore Grove Park in Highland Park had over 2,000 participants who enjoyed 14 bands over a period of two days. The music festival was made possible through a combination of public and private partnerships led by Team Cedillo, who produced the event.

The festival was presented by UnionBank as the primary corporate sponsor in partnership with Metro, KJazz 88.1 and featured Grammy Award winning artist, Poncho Sanchez and his Latin Jazz Band.

We are extremely excited about the tremendous community turnout to our first annual event, and to see so many happy people dancing and enjoying the festival. This festival is the beginning of making the First District number one, by taking back our parks and having quality programming for our residents."

The festival was produced as part of our P.E.A.C.E agenda to bring ongoing arts and cultural events to the community. The festival also highlighted the newly restored historic Sousa-Hiner Bandshell where the bands used to entertain the audience for two days.

Debs Park and the Arroyo Seco Homeless Encampments



(Photo Credit: Sylvia Robledo)

Although it has been months in the making, last week we began to clean up some of the homeless encampments there were in public parks in the Northeast portion of the district. Our first clean-up was at Sycamore Grove Park along the freeway, and this past week our team

spent several days at Debs Regional Park and along the Arroyo Seco.

Team Cedillo collaborated with LAPD, Park Rangers, LAFD, Sanitation and the Watershed Hazmat Team. Since the area along the Arroyo Seco also falls in the District 14, we were able to collaborate with my colleague Council Member Jose Huizar.

Sensitive to the needs of the homeless, we also partnered with Los Angeles Service Homeless Authority to make sure that social service needs were provided to individuals who needed them. As chair of the housing committee, I am very sensitive to the needs of the homeless and have been formulating various models for long term solutions in providing the homeless services. This is a step in making sure that not only we remove blight from our communities, but that human beings are held with dignity and provided adequate shelter as well as social services.

Team Cedillo will continue to address the homeless encampments in the Arroyo Seco next week, and plan on working on other areas of the district just as we done in MacArthur Park a few months ago.

COMMUNITY NEWS

Mt. Washington West Celebrates at the Annual Block Party

Our office sponsored the Mt. Washington West Neighborhood Block Party on Sunday, August 17th. Neighbors celebrated with their annual pot-luck block party, which included everyone's favorite dishes as well as face painting for the kids. The large crowd gathered to mingle with their friends and neighbors to enjoy the music and festivities in a beautiful summer day. The neighborhood watch is led by Co-chairs Helen Wong and Moira Gomez and their team of block captains. Thank you for keeping Mt. Washington West safe!

On Saturday, August 16 Superior Grocers made a generous donation of \$2500.00 to the Mt. Washington Elementary school.

Accepting the donation on behalf of the school was Sharon Steele, president of the Friends of Mt. Washington Elementary School and Principal Georgia Gravino. Councilmember Cedillo is proud to recognizing Superior Grocers for their community leadership and Mt. Washington Elementary school for their academic excellence.

Southwest Museum to celebrate the 100th Anniversary

On Saturday, August 16, over 200 community members gathered at the [Southwest Museum](#) to celebrate it's 100th anniversary. Team Cedillo recognizes the rich history of the museum and the gem it is to our great city. As part of our P.E.A.C.E. agenda, community access to arts and culture is an important priority in the First District. We wish the Southwest Museum the best.

COMMUNITY CALENDAR





76th Annual Mid-Autumn Moon Festival

**Saturday, September 13, 2014
5pm-12am**

**Central & West Plazas
943-951 N. Broadway
Los Angeles, CA 90012**

Free for all ages

**The festival is easily accessed via Metro Gold Line rail from
the Chinatown Station.**

**West Plaza
Artisans**

**Calligraphy by Guojian Cui
Clay Sculpture by Keluo Xu
Dough Sculpture by Chris Lee
Face Painting by Tai-Ling Wong
Fruit Carving by THAIS, Inc.
Magician by Minh Tran
Storytelling by Barbara Wong (8:30pm & 9:15pm)**

For article submission or calendar events please submit to Louis.reyes@lacity.org every Wednesday by 1:00 pm deadline to be published in the upcoming Friday edition. We reserve the right to copy edit or refuse submissions.

This message was sent to mistyli@aol.com by:

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